



Hard Night

Jackie Ashenden

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It's their pleasure to serve . . .

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Jacob Night, ex-Black Ops, owner of a billion-dollar security company, and leader of the 11th Hour, spends his life completing dangerous missions for others. But there's one personal mission he has yet to complete: Finding his missing brother, who was betrayed by the woman he should have been able to trust. But when he finally tracks down his brother's ex, there's one surprise: she can't remember a thing.

Faith has no memory of who she is. She can't remember life before she came to work for Jacob Night, and she's not sure she wants to. But when she and Jacob are ambushed by men who have come to kill her for sins she can't recall committing, she has no choice but to face the past. Yet once she does, and Jacob's identity--and her own--come to light, they may not survive with their lives intact, let alone their hearts.

Hard Night Details

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From Reader Review Hard Night for online ebook

Donna Repsher says

I've said it before and I'll say it again, just when you think Jackie Ashenden can't possibly write a better, more exciting, sexier and more intense book than the last one, she does, and *Hard Night*, the third book in her 11th Hour series is proof positive of that. It gets 5 stars from this reader.

The night mentioned in the title is Jacob Night, head of the 11th Hour group of mercenaries, who are the good guys for a change, dark and damaged, former black ops, but working to rescue, right wrongs, and bring the bad guys to justice--sort of the Robin Hoods of the mercenary world. All members of this team were carefully chosen for their skills, and in the first two books in this series, two members of the group have found love, and the women they fell for all had skill sets that made it possible to add them into the group. Of all the member of the group, Jacob Night has been the most closed up, elusive. and hardest to read character and this novel is his story.

The Prologue opens with Jacob in a hospital, looking at a small, emaciated woman who has suffered a traumatic brain injury. He's been trying to track her down because he believes her to be the final link in helping him locate his long lost twin brother, Joshua, from whom he was separated when they were both in foster care. He believes the woman was his brother's lover, and might know his present whereabouts. When the doctor tells him that the woman has no memory of who she is, where she came from, or how she ended up near death in an alley, Jacob pretends to be her cousin, moves her out of the hospital and into his home where he can care for her, and eventually moves her into his employ at 11th Hour, where she's been for the past 6 months, living under the name he gave her, Faith Beasley.

As the novel opens, the enigmatic Jacob is parked and inside his limo with Faith. Jacob is tired of waiting for her memory of who she is to return, and is more than ready to start pushing. She knows what he wants from her, he's made no secret of the fact that he wants her to lead him to his brother, who, from the little information he's been able to gather, is now a mercenary working for the bad guys involved in the illegal arms trade. Their conversation is soon interrupted when the first of many bullets pierces the limo window, aimed at Faith, but wounding Jacob instead, and the chase is on, with Jacob valiantly ignoring his own injury in his haste to get Faith to a safe house that not even members of his team know exists.

It's not surprising that these two characters have amazing chemistry, but for the past six months, Jacob has ignored their chemistry and his desire for her, believing that if Faith is indeed his brother's lover, if and when her memory returns, it would not only complicate matters, as if they weren't complicated enough already. Now that they're in hiding, and now that another attempt has been made on Faith's life, Jacob needs her to get her memory back and fast, and his hands-off policy is about to end, and does it ever, in some of the hottest and most explicit sex scenes Ms. Ashenden has written to date. These two characters are also some of the most vividly drawn among the many characters Ms. Ashenden has created, and they are far more alike and damaged by their childhoods than either character realizes. To say that their backstories are compelling is putting it mildly. During their stay at the safe house, it becomes more than clear that buttoned-up, prim and proper Faith likes her sex hard and dirty, and that certainly works for Jacob. She also has skills that lead Jacob to the firm knowledge that she was once in black ops herself, and when her memory suddenly returns in a flash of insight, she knocks Jacob unconscious and escapes, but once he regains consciousness, Jacob is hot on her trail and not far behind.

Will Jacob catch up with Faith? Will she lead Jacob to his brother? If she does, what will these long lost twins have to say to one another? How will Faith regaining her memory affect her relationship with Jacob? Since I don't do spoilers, you're going to have to read this intriguing novel to find out, and are you ever going

to be surprised at its ending.

Hard Night is one of the most gripping of Ms. Ashenden's romantic suspense novels, and has one of the most complicated and compelling plots, and there is no let up of the suspense, action, revelations, surprises, betrayals or sexual chemistry between its two main characters, who will certainly live on in this reader's memory for quite some time. While this novel can be read as a standalone, reading the first two novels in this series in the order written will certainly enhance your understanding of 11th Hour and its characters, and I recommend that you do that, because this is one remarkably addictive and well-written series, and I wouldn't want you to miss a minute of it.

I voluntarily read an advance reader copy of this novel. The opinions expressed are my own.

Cheri says

4.5 stars

Holy cow! This book was so hot. I said in my review of Total Control, in reference to the interrogation scene between Kellan and Sabrina, that this author knows how to write a sexy scene. Compared to the (for lack of a better/different term) interrogation scene between Jacob and Faith in this story the other one is child's play. I felt like I needed to take a cold shower before these two ever even came close to sealing the deal, so to speak.

Now, I don't want you to get the idea that there's no actual story here. That's the genius of Jackie Ashenden...she can write these amazing intimate scenes while also delving deep into the other aspects of the characters and the story. There were so many aspects of Faith's story that I wouldn't have thought of, but the author covered them all. From her sense of self to her worries about who that self really was and who she wanted to be. Would she lose that once her memories returned? So much to think about and such intricate writing. All of which carried over into the second part of the story when those memories came into play.

Jacob has an amazing way of reading the thoughts and feelings of those around him. With Faith, that helped him to switch from tough and unbending to soft and caring as the situation called for. Even when Faith herself didn't realize what she needed. I loved that they could be rough with each other and still show the softer side, and even show the soft side while being rough.

All the stories of this series converge in this book. While I'm fairly happy with the way things are wrapped up, there's still definite wiggle room to add to this series if the author so decides. Or to offshoot some of the characters to another series. Whichever makes the most sense. Whatever it may be, I'll be there ready to read what the author has to write. She keeps me hooked.

I would be remiss if I didn't mention the cover of this book since it's been bugging me so badly. The cover of Raw Power irked me because there was a huge character trait that was left off the model on that cover, but I let it go. The cover of Total Control looked more like I envisioned that character in facial features, but the clothing and the apparent age didn't make sense. Still, let it go. This one I can't let go. It's a great cover with a gorgeous model, it's just so not a representation of Jacob Night in any way other than the fact that the guy has dark hair. I just don't understand. I know there are impressive looking men in there 30s and older out there. This in no way sways my review or rating of this story, just one of those things I felt I had to get out of my system.

**I received an ARC of this book courtesy of Net Galley and the publisher. All opinions expressed in this

review are my own and given freely**

This review can also be found at <https://allingoodtimeblog.wordpress.c...>

Ayekah says

Book 3 brings Jacob and Faith into the 11th hour series. Jacob is the head of 11th hour and in search of his brother. He believes Faith is the key to finding him, the problem is Faith has amnesia and doesn't remember anything. She has nightmares, bits and pieces of being attacked and hurt but nothing more. Jacob finds her in the hospital and brings her home to recoup hoping her memory will return.

After 6 months and nothing happening, also working with the group doing some work, Jacob decides it's time to try and flush out her memory. After they are attacked, he takes her to his safe house in Washington where he slowly seduces both her body and her mind. He may have just gotten more than he bargained for with that. This story has some great twists and turns and a hell of a lot of who do you trust. It flows nicely. I couldn't decide if I liked Jacob or not. Faith I liked. I was a little disappointed with this one, not up to Jackie's usual exceedingly over the top great, but still was a good read. Next book please.

Jeriann Fisher says

I thoroughly enjoyed Raw Power & Total Control, the first 2 books in the 11th Hour series by Jackie Ashenden. After reading Hard Night, book 3, I have a new book to put on my all-time favorite. This story is heartbreaking and raw, about broken people who find the love and acceptance they need in each other & make each other whole.

Hard Night takes off with a bang, shots fired at Night & his faithful assistant Faith Beasley, a terrific opening that grabbed me and never let go. Tantalized with glimpses of Jacob Night in the first two installments, I was more than eager to find out more about the mysterious man who founded the 11th Hour mercenary/security company and keeps to the shadows. From those two books, I could tell Night had ulterior motives for setting up his security firm. (Kudos to Ashenden for creating that tantalizing overarching storyline in the first 2 stories without it interfering with them.) These ulterior motives unfold as Night & Faith try to track down the culprits who shot at them.

Faith suffers from amnesia, no memory of her ID or her life before Jacob Night claimed her in the hospital 6 months previously. Why did he claim her? What does he gain by keeping her close by? Who was the woman now called Faith Beasley? Jacob is somewhat a beast of a man but Faith sees something in him. He tells himself he only is interested in Faith for her past that's locked inside her memory and lead him to his twin brother Joshua, separated from him under tragic circumstances.

I don't want to give too many details because you need to read and experience the tumult these 2 go through for true love. The love scenes are steamy but so essential to the telling of their story. It's a standalone, but do yourself a favor and read Raw Power & Total Control first.

Arc provided by Net Galley.

Maria says

-- Received an Advance Reader Copy in exchange for a fair review --

A very dark and extremely attractive hero falls for a heroine who seems all warmth and softness but is nonetheless a hard “warrior princess”.

Jackie Ashenden’s talent delivering compelling and charismatic men, in this case a tortured hero with a dark edge, the slow-building chemistry between Jacob and Faith, Faith’s memories and past entangled with Jacob’s history make “Hard Night” an exciting read.

I also loved the possessiveness, loyalty and mutual trust and to watch (finally!) the unveiling of the mysterious Jacob Night.

I'm grateful to the publisher, Kensington Books, and NetGalley for providing a free copy

Holly Senecal says

Wow. Jackie Ashenden needs to be read. Hard Night is outside my usual comfort zone as far as romance novels go because it is a little spicier. But honestly? The spice was not overdone, it fit well with the characters and story and the story in itself was absolutely fabulous! I love Jackie Ashenden and cannot wait to recommend Hard Night to all my romance reading friends.

Sheila Jenkins says

ARC received from Netgalley in exchange for an honest review. The opinions expressed below are my own ...

Of the 11th Hour Series - Hard Night is now my favorite !! Let’s start with saying how HOT is this book cover - makes me want to turn Jacob around to see the fascinating tattoos as described by Ms Ashenden on his chest - ok I just had to say that ...??

I also love that the heroine Faith Beasley (aka Joanna Lynn) has amnesia & no memory at all of who she is ... Jacob rescues Faith but is also not honest about the truth behind his reasons for doing so - mainly to try & find his brother Joshua who he believes is caught up in a major arms trading operation.

Events start triggering Faith’s memory & we find out she is a Military Special Ops kickass agent part of a mission where she was sent to kill Joshua !! Unfortunately she was double crossed by her own team who decided to take her out - shot at - hospitalized - threatened all while not having any idea at all who she is ...

Jacob & Faith are drawn to each other not by just the danger of their mission - but their sexual chemistry is off the charts !! Jacob has lost everyone he loves - parents - his brother - his squadron in a mission gone terribly wrong ... Faith on the other hand has never believed in love since she never had stability in her life growing up or was meant to feel valued -she is carrying some very deep emotional scars

I can tell you this book held my interest so much that I read in one sitting - there were a few twists & turns I did not see coming but in typical Jackie Ashenden fashion there is an amazing epilogue with one of the best

HEA she has written - in this case Faith goes after her man ♥?♥?♥?

Also very interesting concept of giving up on ♥?♥? because you feel so unworthy & have lost all hope - it's safer for your heart to let that special someone go ...

I really loved this book - it can definitely be read as a stand-alone but I highly recommend this author & series

Maranda says

Eleventh Hour is made up of hard core members whose goal is to help those that need them. Faith - who has no memory is inducted into this group when its founder Jacob Night takes her from the hospital. Jacob's only goal is to find his twin brother who was separated from him in the foster family system at a young age. Enter Faith who holds a key to his search. Found this book full of twists and turns but also with a sprinkling of romance and healing. I read this fine as a stand-alone but will probably revisit this series as the characters, of a secondary nature, are amazing. "A copy of this book was provided by Kensington Books via Netgalley with no requirements for a review. Comments here are my honest opinion." Skilled author is what makes this a great read.

Dísir says

'Hard Night' starts off odd and somewhat implausible, with a writing style that takes a while to get used to.

So odd that it took me a while to grasp the even stranger relationship that Faith has with Jacob that Jackie Ashenden sets out to write: a woman suffering from memory loss whom he takes in because of several conflicting reasons that are given in the search for his brother.

Mostly, it's the suspension of disbelief that I had a problem with, which lasted quite a bit of the book at least: that Faith hadn't questioned very much about Jacob's intentions and her own circumstances, or that Jacob really couldn't quite decide if she was the enemy or a tool to use or the time lapse for things to start happening. There's also the uncomfortable hint of double-dipping, until at least Faith regains her memory, with a sort of split personality coming in here as she finally finds herself at odds with Jacob and his search for his brother.

As far as romantic suspense goes, there's action from the beginning that thrusts Jacob and Faith in a situation where they are forced to get close despite their living situation, though it quickly dives into erotica after that, with possessive domination and roughness that characterise how sex happens between them.

Most of all however, I think I was simply left flailing, unable to get a foothold in what Jacob/Faith are supposed to be, in the contradictory ways they react to each other, in the push-pull that says one thing at first then another. With a 'connection' so physically superficial that it rides more on ideas of ownership—and fighting each other into bed—than anything remotely resembling caring/love, I was likewise, trying (but not really succeeding) to get invested in this pairing, let alone the plot that stuttered because of the exhausting number of pages of rough-and-clothes-ripping-type-sex. Needless to say, this just isn't a book that worked for me.

*ARC by the publisher via Netgalley

Timitra says

Rated 3.5 Stars

Hard Night is a suspenseful, sexy and enjoyable read. I've been looking forward to reading the mysterious Mr. Night's book ever since I read the first book in the series. The previous books gave glimpses into him leaving you with more questions than answers but Hard Night tells his story.

In a nutshell it's a boss/employee type of story with broken characters but there are other dynamics to their relationship that add a forbidden/taboo element to it. While I enjoyed it, it didn't fully work for me for a few reasons, it took me a while to get into it, I didn't really connect with the characters and the hero's nickname for the heroine had me cringing. I'm not sure why it engendered this response in me since it's not creepy but every time I saw it it elicited that response.

I liked it but didn't love it.

ARC provided by publisher through Net Galley

Sandy S says

4 stars

ABOUT THE BOOK: Release Date November 27, 2018

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Jacob Night, ex-Black Ops, owner of a billion-dollar security company, and leader of the 11th Hour, spends his life completing dangerous missions for others. But there's one personal mission he has yet to complete: Finding his missing brother, who was betrayed by the woman he should have been able to trust. But when he finally tracks down his brother's ex, there's one surprise: she can't remember a thing.

Faith has no memory of who she is. She can't remember life before she came to work for Jacob Night, and she's not sure she wants to. But when she and Jacob are ambushed by men who have come to kill her for sins she can't recall committing, she has no choice but to face the past. Yet once she does, and Jacob's identity--and her own--come to light, they may not survive with their lives intact, let alone their hearts.

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REVIEW: HARD NIGHT is the third instalment in Jackie Ashenden's contemporary, adult 11th HOUR erotic, romantic suspense series focusing on the men and women who work for 11th Hour Security. This is ex-Black Ops / 11th Hour owner Jacob Night, and Faith Beasley's story line. TOTAL CONTROL can be

read as a stand alone without any difficulty. Any important information from the previous story line is revealed where necessary.

Told from dual third person perspectives (Faith and Jake) HARD NIGHT follows the building relationship between ex-Black Ops / 11th Hour owner Jacob Night, and Faith Beasley. Six months earlier Faith found herself in the hospital without any memory of who she was, or anything about her past including the man she would grow to love. Jacob Night suspects Faith knows something about his missing brother Josh but our heroine is unable to recall the how and why of her current dilemma. Fast forward to present day wherein Faith will be targeted by someone from her past. Desperate to protect the woman with whom he is falling in love, Jake 'abducts' Faith to places unknown in the hopes of being able to jostle her memory into revealing the truth about the brother he lost.

Faith Beasley has amnesia. For six months our heroine has struggled to regain her forgotten memories but with their return Faith knows it is only a matter of time before Jake discovers the truth about her connections to the past. Jacob Night doesn't do relationships and a relationship with the woman he believes is keeping secrets threatens all sense of peace for our story line hero.

The relationship between Faith and Jacob is one of immediate attraction; there is a definite palpable sexual energy that may or may not be predicated on the fear of the unknown. Faith is hoping for something more but when her memories return betrayal and heart break become her only companion. The sex scenes are intimate, erotic, aggressive and intense.

The colorful secondary and supporting characters include Callie Hawthorne and Jack King (Raw Power #1), Kellan Blake, and IT specialist Sabrina Leighton (Total Control #2). The requisite evil has many faces but is familiar to our story line couple.

HARD NIGHT is a story of power and control; betrayal and vengeance; family and love. The premise is engaging and energetic; the romance is spirited and dramatic; the characters are broken, flawed and intoxicating. HARD NIGHT is an impassioned and startling story of romantic suspense.

Copy supplied by Netgalley

www.thereadingcafe.com

Helen says

WOW another powerful, emotional and action packed story from MS Ashenden, she never disappoints me her characters are so very strong and have so much going on and she brings it all out in a story that is very hard to put down, this time we get the boss of 11th Hour Jacob Knight's story and has this man got some baggage and the person that will get him to open up is Faith, but not before Jacob makes Faith dig deep as well, hang on for a fabulous ride.

Faith has been with 11th Hour for six months and only Jacob knows that she is suffering from amnesia, she has no memory of who she is or what has gone on in her life before, but Jacob needs that information to find his missing brother, a lot has happened since they were separated and no one knows the truth, but considering the feelings he is harbouring for Faith then maybe opening up to her will also help her get her memory back.

When her memory does return it hits Faith like a brick wall and she needs to get away from Jacob, she has

many secrets that she keeps and even though Jacob has opened up to her opening up to him maybe bad idea or a good one, their relationship is growing in many different ways, but she is determined to get to the truth about a friend. And just maybe he is her prince for a princess after all.

This is a really fast paced story the heat that arcs between Jacob and Faith could light up a town, but the danger keep them going, the need for both of them to protect each other gets stronger and when Jacob's brother arrives on the scene emotions fly, I did love this story and this series, MS Ashenden you rock with your stories woohoo, thank you.

Carma says

Faith Beasley has no memory past 6 months ago. 6 months ago when she was rescued, by a man claiming to be her cousin, who helped her recover after being beaten, shot and left in a coma in South America. Who was she and why was he helping her?

Jacob Night always had an agenda, rarely did he fly by the seat of his pants but when he finds a lead in locating his brother he jumps in running. He knows his only real chance at finding him is the last person he was with. A person who has no memory of that meeting, he must do whatever possible to get her memory to come back.

Faith is attracted to Jacob and has a feeling he feels the same but is holding back for some reason. When he starts to push her to remember the past she starts to have angst about who he really is. Working for the 11th hour has given her an outlet to become someone new since she has no idea of her past.

Faith and Jacob get pulled into a fight or flight scenario when someone tries to kill them. Are they after her or him, they don't stick around to find out. When they arrive at his safe house, Jacob tells her that it was her they were after and who she really is.

A great twisting and turning novel going a little deeper into the main characters lives but not overwhelming. I have the first 2 novels in the series but haven't read yet so this is totally a stand alone in that case. There are mentions of the other main characters with a little background so I never felt lost when reading this one. 4 ½ stars for this newest 11th hour novel, I received an advance copy from Netgalley without expectation for review. Any and all opinions expressed are my own. Another winner from Jackie Ashenden, can't wait for her next release.

Caitlyn Lynch says

Hard Night follows two characters, Jacob Night and Faith Beasley, through an intense period of just a few days. The book begins six months before the present, as we discover that 'Faith' is actually an amnesiac with no idea of who she really is. The only thing Jacob knows about her is that she has some sort of connection to his long-lost brother, and on the strength of this he manages to get her released into his custody by claiming he's her cousin.

What grinds my gears about this is that Faith knows pretty much right from the beginning that Jacob's lied to

her. She's trying to build a life predicated on a lie. Her work, her name, everything; she knows it's a lie and yet she doesn't care.

When someone takes a potshot at Faith, Jacob whisks her off to a secret hideaway where surprise surprise, she recovers her memory and discovers she's a former special forces soldier named Joanna. Now... I don't know about you, but if I got my memory of who I really was back, there's no way I'd keep using the temporary name someone else gave me. Especially when that person is known to have been lying all along. Yet for most of the rest of the book, Joanna keeps thinking of herself as Faith, and Jacob keeps gaslighting her by insisting that she IS Faith.

(Also he refuses to let her escape, practices BDSM on her without her explicit consent and other icky things).

If you were hoping for Jacob to get a resolution to his issues with his brother by the end of the book, you'll be disappointed. The book turns away from resolving the suspense plot in favor of exploring Jacob's endless angst, of which I was frankly really tired by that point. This is one of those books I waded through basically so that in order I can critique it with full knowledge, rather than DNFing when I realized the hero was a despicable liar using the heroine for his own purposes, and she's so spineless she knew about it all along and went along with him anyway.

So much nope. One star.

Disclaimer: I received a copy of this book for review through NetGalley.

Emily (Mrs B's Books) says

****My thanks to NetGalley and Kensington Books, for providing me with a free copy for an honest review****

This is the third book in the series and focuses on the 11th Hour man in charge Jacob Night and Faith Beasley, the woman who organises all the missions that the members go on.

Jacob wants answers from Faith, a woman he took from the hospital with no memories knowing she may be the answer to where his missing brother may be. Faith however is reluctant to find her memories, scared of losing the carefully controlled world that is keeping her safe.

It takes Faith under fire for Mr Night to take a different approach with Faith in order to get her memories back and the change in Faith as she becomes her former self is quite different and it affects both of them more than they would like to admit in the beginning.

Both of them get answers along with something they thought they would never have, someone else there for them no matter what.

I really enjoyed this book and hope we get to hear more from Joshua.
